



[7590-01-P]

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2012-0231]

### Control of Ferrite Content in Stainless Steel Weld Metal

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Draft regulatory guide; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) is issuing for public comment draft regulatory guide (DG), DG-1279, "Control of Ferrite Content in Stainless Steel Weld Metal." This guide describes a method that the NRC staff considers acceptable for controlling ferrite content in stainless steel weld metal. Revision 4 updates the guide to remove references to outdated standards and to remove an appendix that has been incorporated into relevant specifications.

**DATES:** Submit comments by December 2, 2012. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Although a time limit is given, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** You may access information and comment submissions related to this document, which the NRC possesses and are publicly available, by searching on

<http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket ID **NRC-2012-0231**. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Web site:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2012-0231**. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-492-3668; e-mail: [Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov](mailto:Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov).

- **Mail comments to:** Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB), Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

- **Fax comments to:** RADB at 301-492-3446.

For additional direction on accessing information and submitting comments, see “Accessing Information and Submitting Comments” in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mekonen Bayssie, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-251-7489 or e-mail: [Mekonen.Bayssie@nrc.gov](mailto:Mekonen.Bayssie@nrc.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Accessing Information and Submitting Comments**

#### **A. Accessing Information**

Please refer to Docket ID **NRC-2012-0231** when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access information related to this

document, which the NRC possesses and are publicly available, by any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Web site:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2012-0231**.

- **NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):**  
You may access publicly available documents online in the NRC Library at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "[ADAMS Public Documents](#)" and then select "[Begin Web-based ADAMS Search](#)." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The draft regulatory guide is available electronically under ADAMS Accession No. ML12024A004. The regulatory analysis may be found in ADAMS under Accession No. ML12024A014.

Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and NRC approval is not required to reproduce them.

- **NRC's PDR:** You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

## B. Submitting Comments

Please include Docket ID **NRC-2012-0231** in the subject line of your comment submission, in order to ensure that the NRC is able to make your comment submission available to the public in this docket.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information in comment submissions that you do not want to be publicly disclosed. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as enters the comment submissions into

ADAMS. The NRC does not edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information in their comment submissions that they do not want to be publicly disclosed. Your request should state that the NRC will not edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment submissions into ADAMS.

## **II. Further Information**

The NRC is issuing for public comment a draft guide in the NRC's "Regulatory Guide" series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC's regulations, techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft regulatory guide, entitled, "Control of Ferrite Content in Stainless Steel Weld Metal," is temporarily identified by its task number, DG-1279. The DG-1279 is proposed revision 4 of Regulatory Guide 1.31, dated April 1978. Revision 4 updates the guide to remove references to outdated standards and to remove an appendix that has been incorporated into relevant specifications.

This guide describes a method that the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) considers acceptable for controlling ferrite content in stainless steel weld metal. This guide is intended to supplement the ASME Code requirements to ensure control of delta ferrite

in welds in austenitic stainless steel core support structures, reactor internals, and Class1, 2, and 3 components. The NRC staff seeking input on the latest technical standards that should be in this guide.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26<sup>TH</sup> day of Sept., 2012.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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